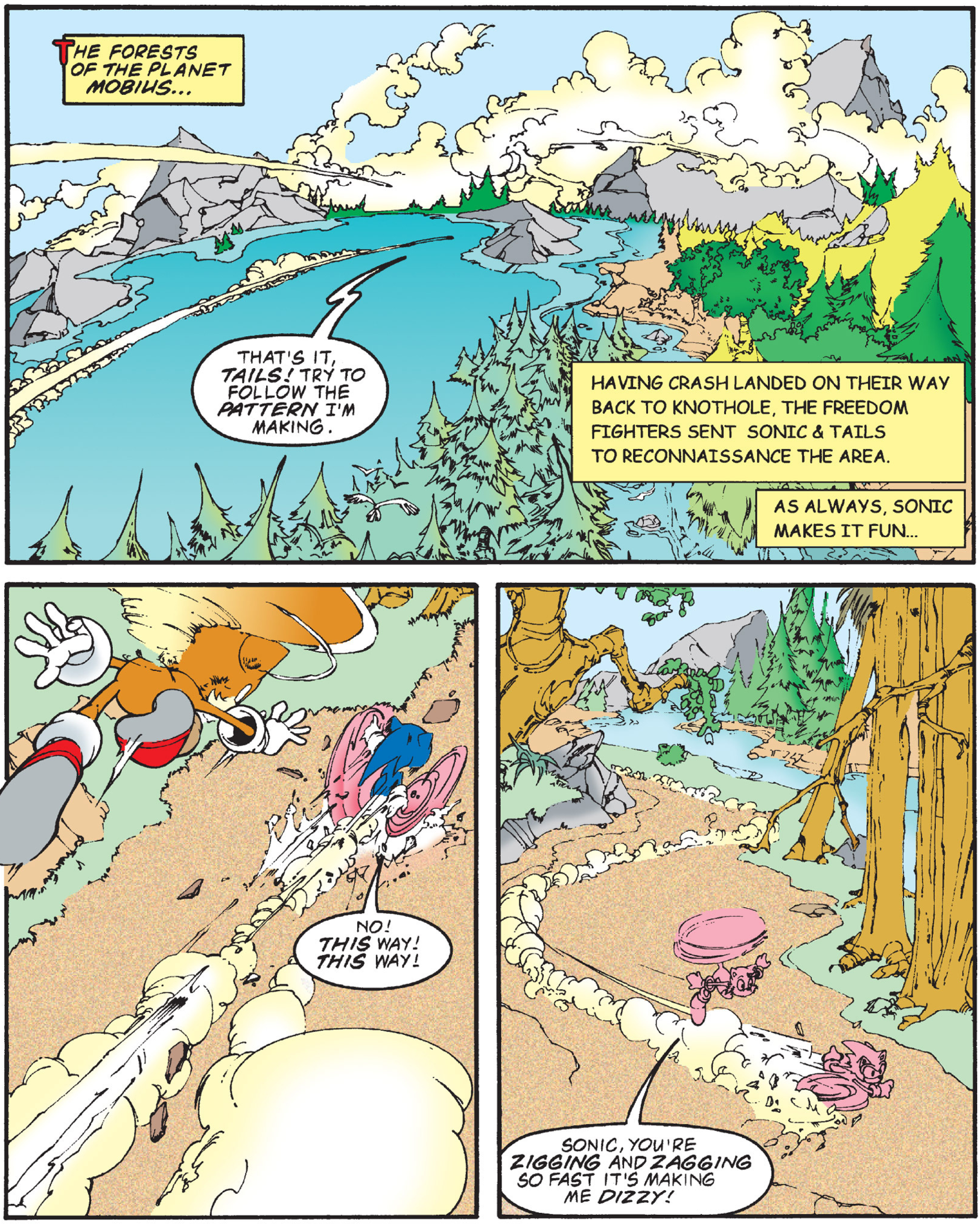

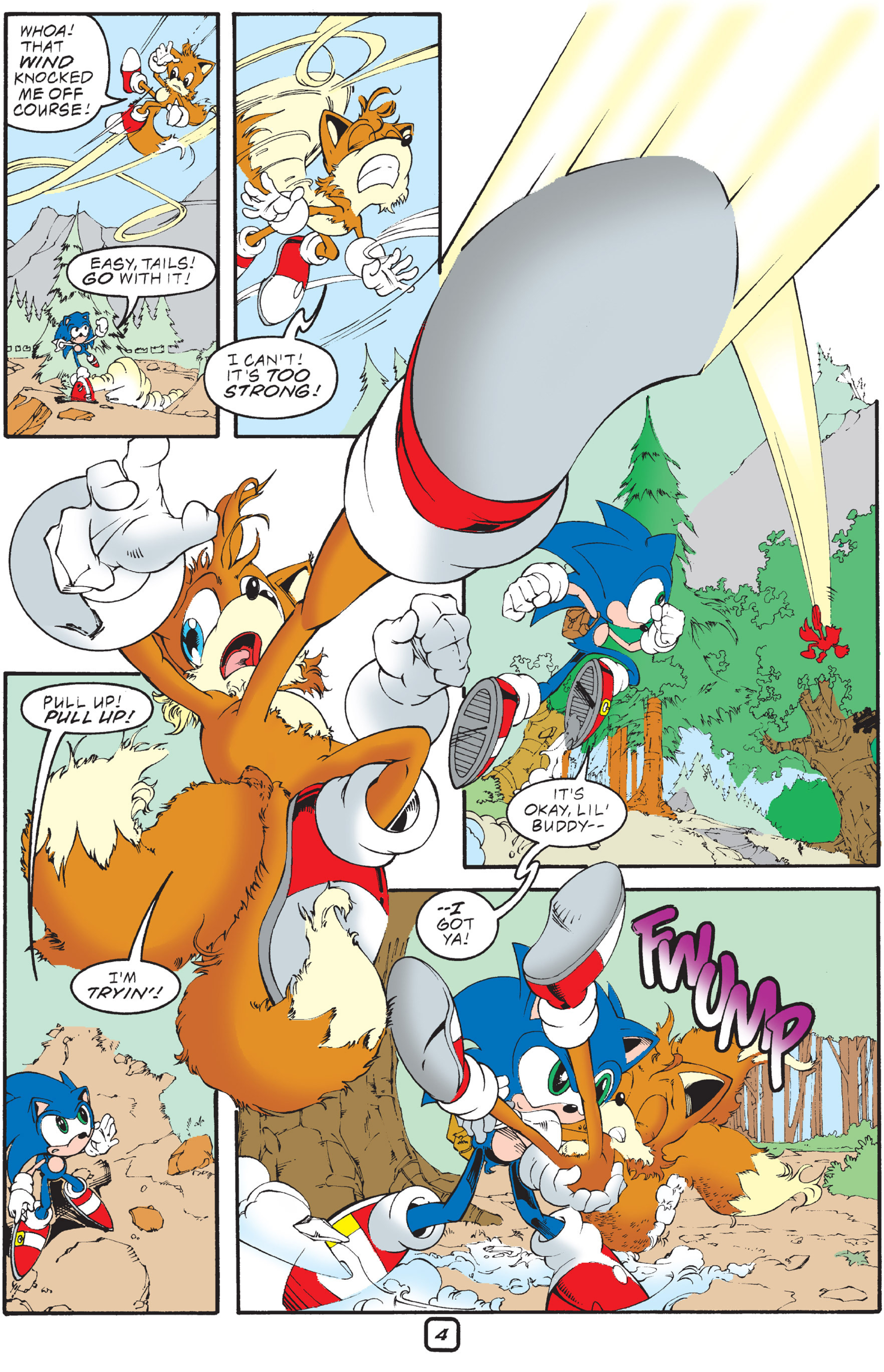

Archie ADVENTURE SERIES
NO. 86 SEPT.
US $1.99 CAN $2.19
THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
HEY! DIDN'T I BEAT YOU *LAST* MONTH!?
NOT EXACTLY!!

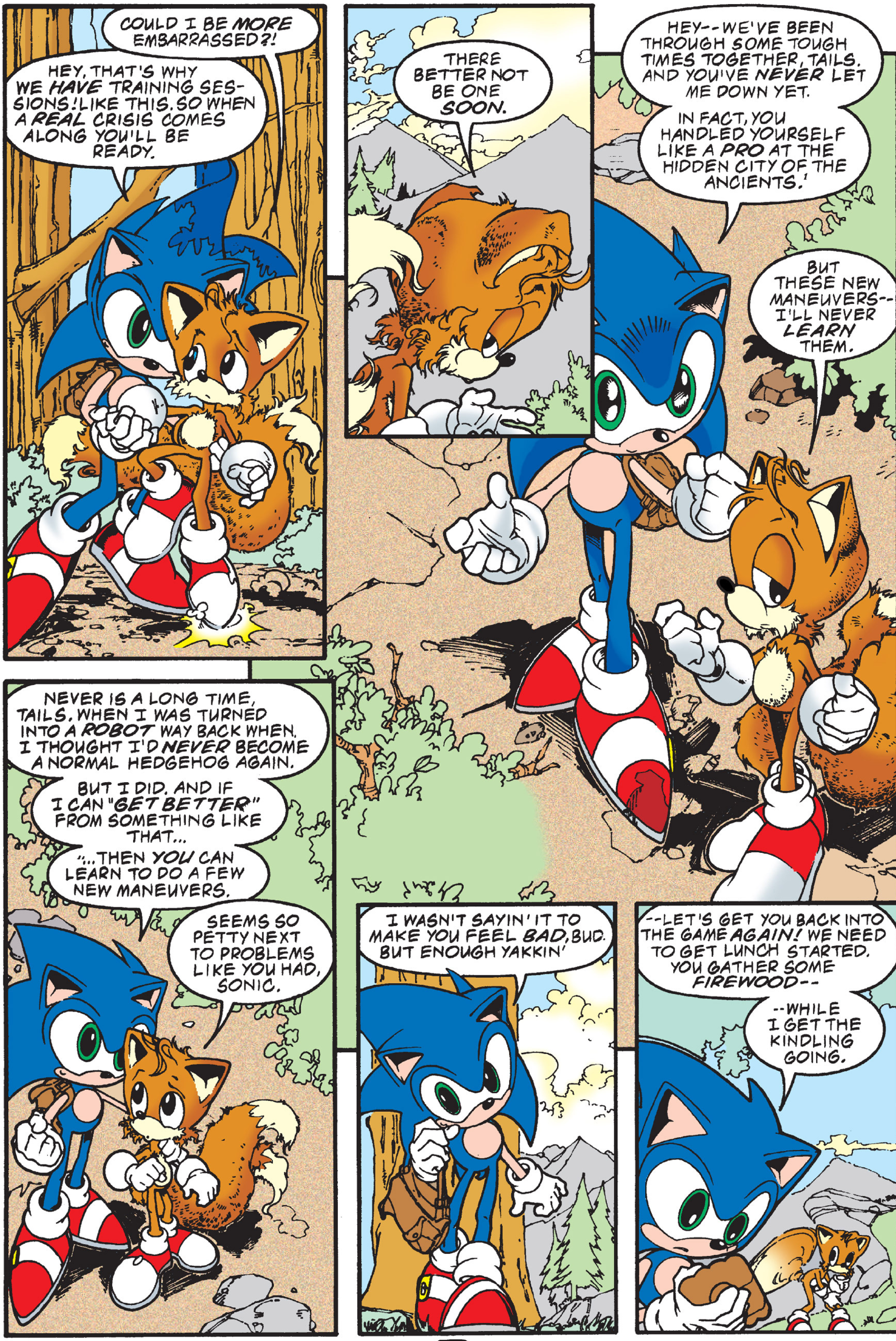
After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his polluted factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!



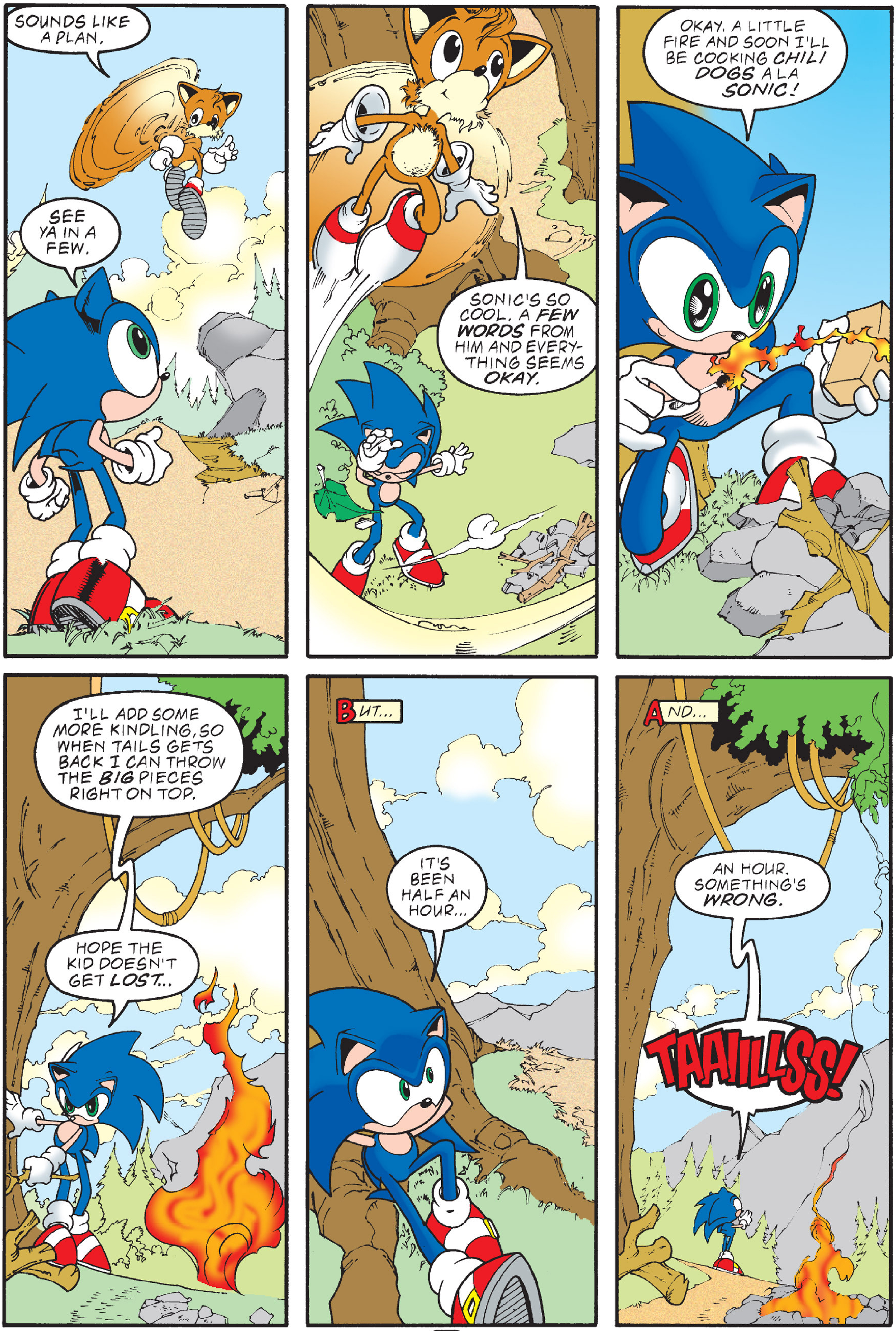
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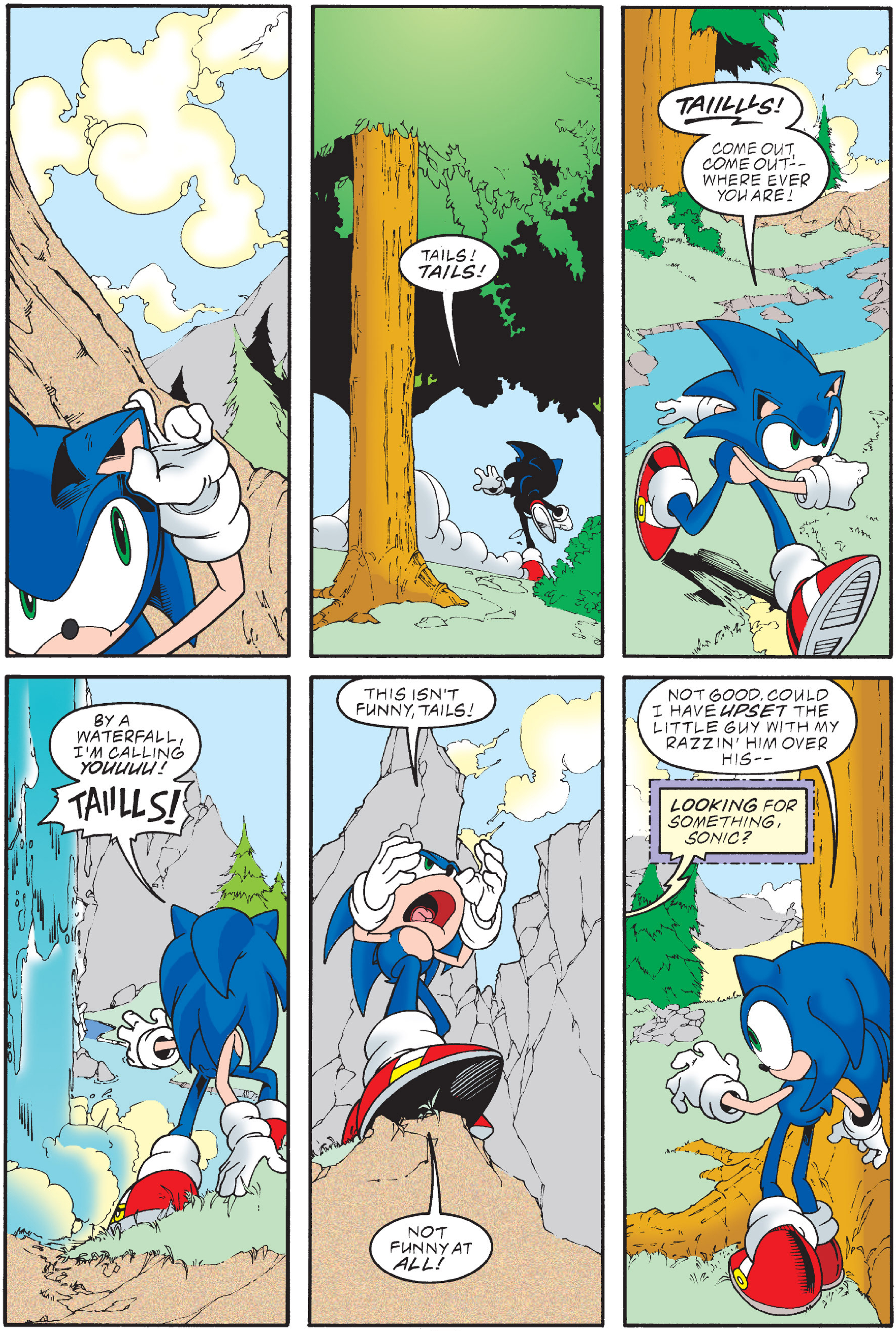

THAT'S IT, TAILS! YOU'VE GOT IT NOW!
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW ANYBODY ANYWHERE!
Ah, LOOK AT THEM. SO CHEERFUL AND OPTIMISTIC. SONIC THE HEDGEHOG AND HIS SIDEKICK TAILS, THE FLYING FOX.
IT'S TOUCHING TO SEE THIS DISPLAY OF FRIENDSHIP--
SO TOUCHING TO SEE THOSE I HATE ENJOYING THEMSELVES...
...BECAUSE I KNOW THAT I WILL SOON TURN THEIR JOY TO TERROR!
HEART OF THE HEDGEHOG part 1
EVIL'S RETURN
DANNY FINGEROTH WRITER
SAM MAXWELL PENCILER
SALEEM CRAWFORD INKER
JEFF POWELL LETTERER
FRANK GAGLIARDO COLORIST
J.F. GABRIE EDITOR/ART DIRECTOR
VICTOR GORELICK MANAGING EDITOR
RICHARD GOLDWATER EDITOR IN CHIEF


WHOA! THAT WIND KNOCKED ME OFF COURSE!
EASY, TAILS! GO WITH IT!
I CAN'T! IT'S TOO STRONG!
PULL UP! PULL UP!
I'M TRYIN'!
IT'S OKAY, LIL' BUDDY--
--I GOT YA!
FWUMP

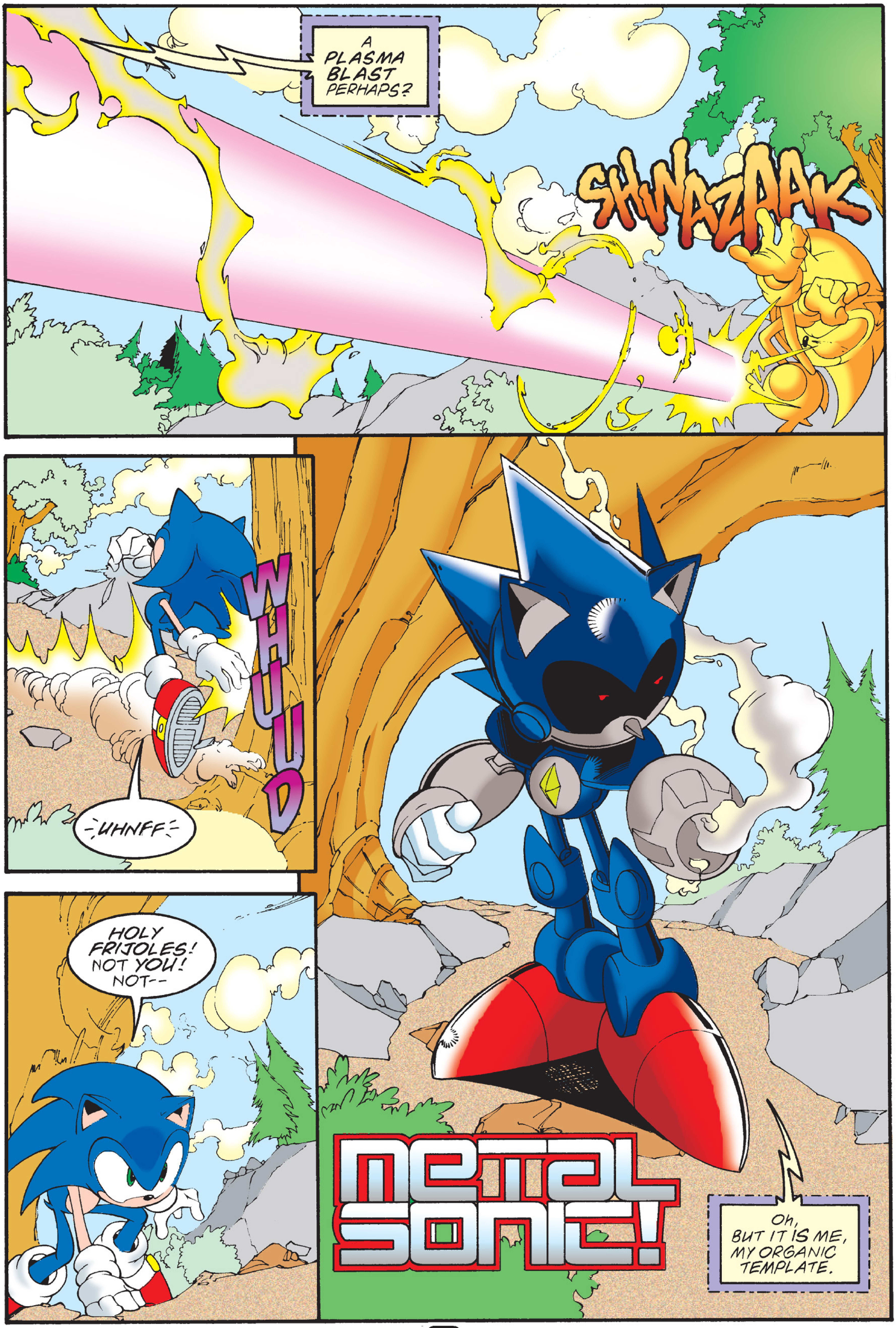


COULD I BE MORE EMBARRASSED?!
HEY, THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TRAINING SESSIONS! LIKE THIS, SO WHEN A REAL CRISIS COMES ALONG YOU'LL BE READY.
THERE BETTER NOT BE ONE SOON.
HEY--WE'VE BEEN THROUGH SOME TOUGH TIMES TOGETHER, TAILS, AND YOU'VE NEVER LET ME DOWN YET.
IN FACT, YOU HANDLED YOURSELF LIKE A PRO AT THE HIDDEN CITY OF THE ANCIENTS.'
BUT THESE NEW MANEUVERS--I'LL NEVER LEARN THEM.
NEVER IS A LONG TIME, TAILS. WHEN I WAS TURNED INTO A ROBOT WAY BACK WHEN, I THOUGHT I'D NEVER BECOME A NORMAL HEDGEHOG AGAIN.
BUT I DID, AND IF I CAN "GET BETTER" FROM SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
"...THEN YOU CAN LEARN TO DO A FEW NEW MANEUVERS.
SEEMS SO PETTY NEXT TO PROBLEMS LIKE YOU HAD, SONIC.
I WASN'T SAYIN' IT TO MAKE YOU FEEL BAD, BUD. BUT ENOUGH YAKKIN'
--LET'S GET YOU BACK INTO THE GAME AGAIN! WE NEED TO GET LUNCH STARTED. YOU GATHER SOME FIREWOOD--
--WHILE I GET THE KINDLING GOING.


SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.
SEE YA IN A FEW.
SONIC'S SO COOL. A FEW WORDS FROM HIM AND EVERY-THING SEEMS OKAY.
OKAY. A LITTLE FIRE AND SOON I'LL BE COOKING CHILI DOGS A LA SONIC!
I'LL ADD SOME MORE KINDLING, SO WHEN TAILS GETS BACK I CAN THROW THE BIG PIECES RIGHT ON TOP.
HOPE THE KID DOESN'T GET LOST...
BUT...
IT'S BEEN HALF AN HOUR...
AND...
AN HOUR. SOMETHING'S WRONG.
TAAIILLSS!



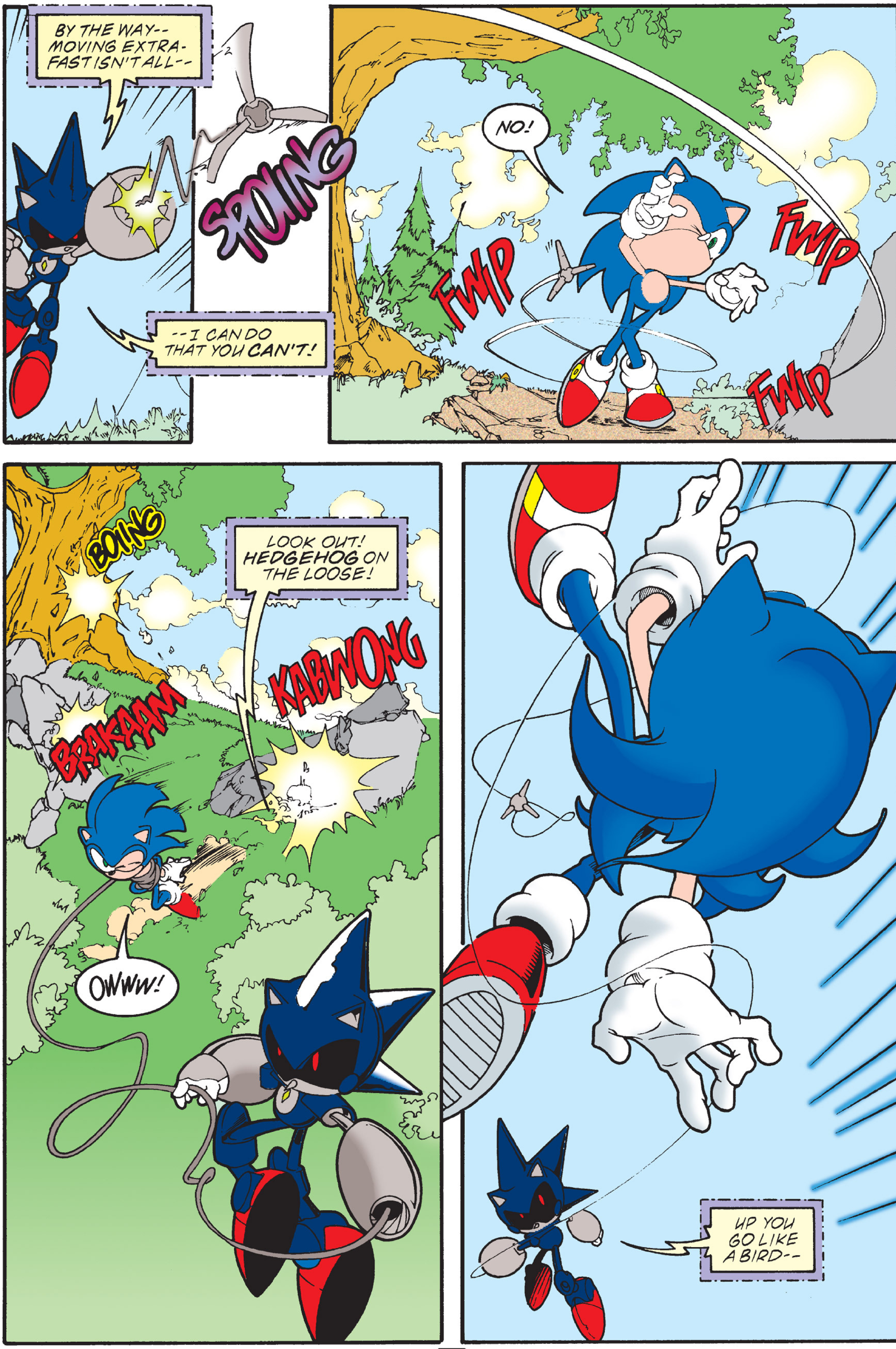
TAILS! TAILS!
TAIlLLS!
COME OUT, COME OUT!- WHERE EVER YOU ARE!
BY A WATERFALL, I'M CALLING YOUUUU!
TAIlLLS!
THIS ISN'T FUNNY, TAILS!
NOT FUNNY AT ALL!
NOT GOOD. COULD I HAVE UPSET THE LITTLE GUY WITH MY RAZZIN' HIM OVER HIS--
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING, SONIC?

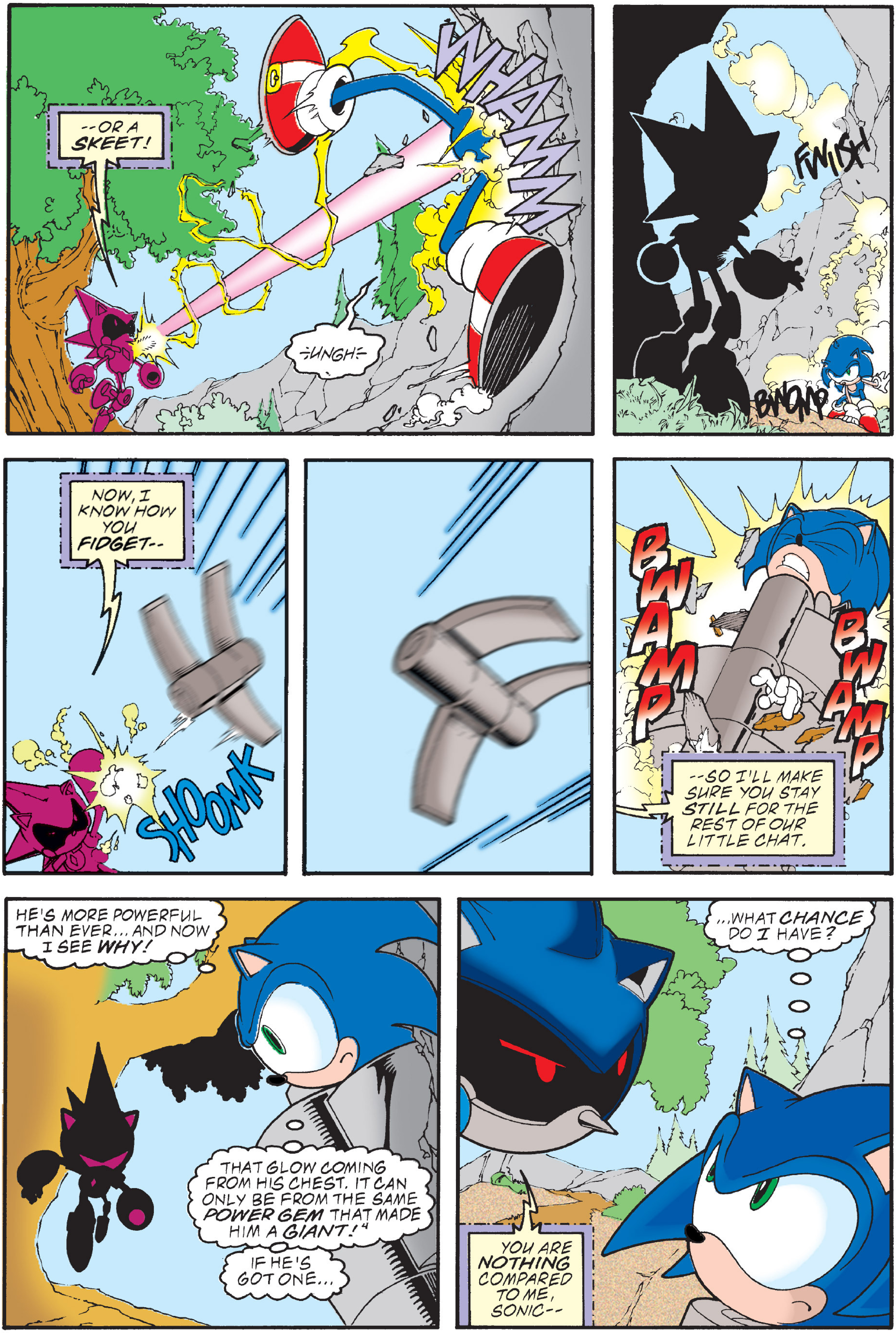

A PLASMA BLAST PERHAPS?
SHWAZAAK
WHUUD
UHNFF
HOLY FRIJOLES! NOT YOU! NOT--
METAL SONIC!
Oh, BUT IT IS ME, MY ORGANIC TEMPLATE.


BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD-- OR WHATEVER HAPPENS TO ROBOTS.
I WAS... DEACTIVATED ...AND SMASHED TO BITS...
BUT NOT BEING FLESH-AND-BLOOD LIKE YOURSELF...
...I WAS ABLE TO RECONSTRUCT MYSELF.
NOW CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG, BOLTHEAD--
"--BUT WHILE I DID TRASH YOU GOOD AND SOLID LAST TIME WE MET...[2]
"...WASN'T IT MY FRIEND KNUCKLES WHO MADE A JUNK HEAP OUT OF YOU LAST TIME YOU WERE OUT AND ABOUT?[3]"
KRA-KOOM!
"YOU AFTER HIM, TOO?"
HE'LL GET HIS SOON. MY PROGRAMMING DICTATES I DESTROY YOU FIRST.
I BEGAN EARLIER... WITH THE CAPTURE OF YOUR YOUNG FRIEND!
TELL ME WHERE TAILS IS!
TELL ME!

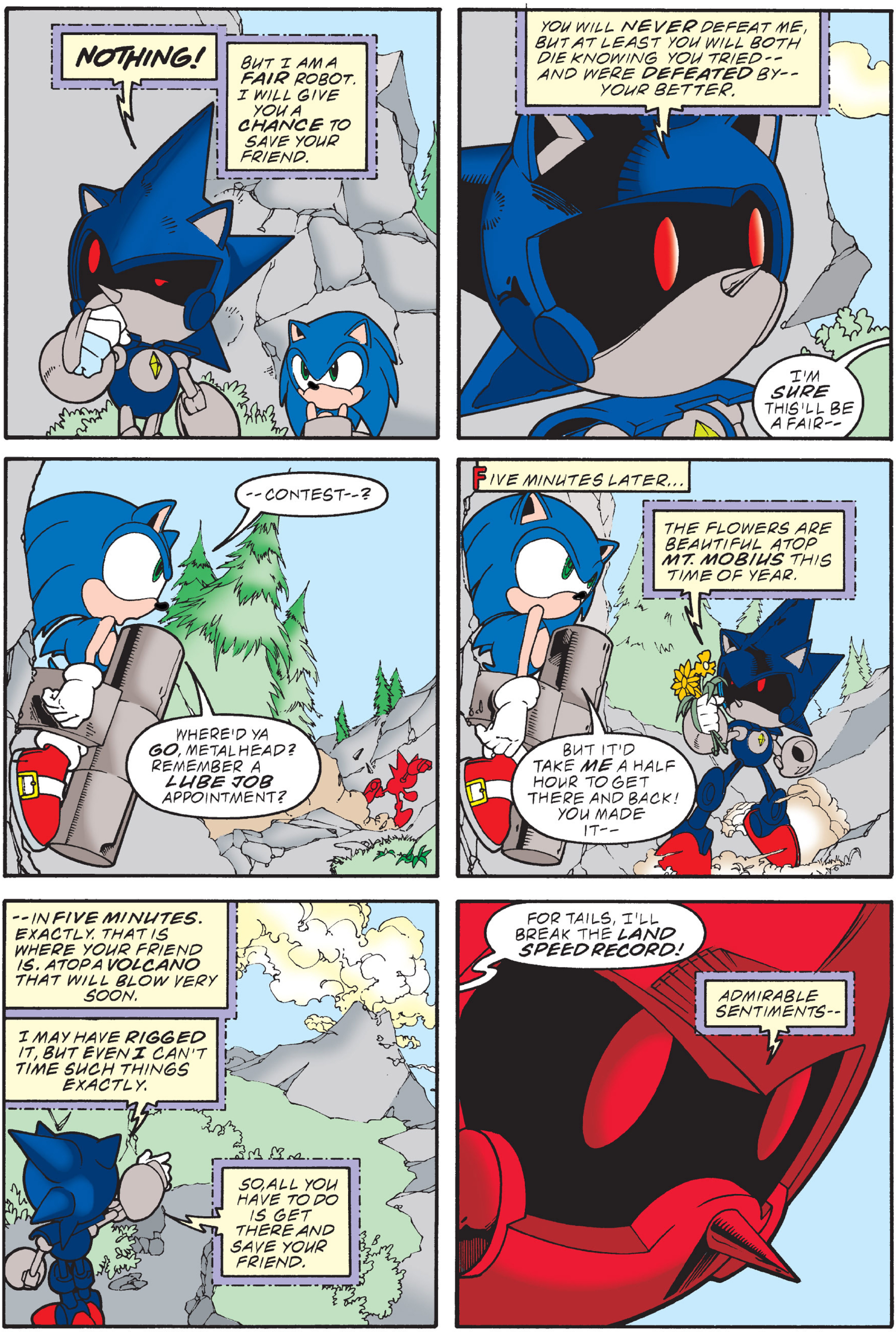


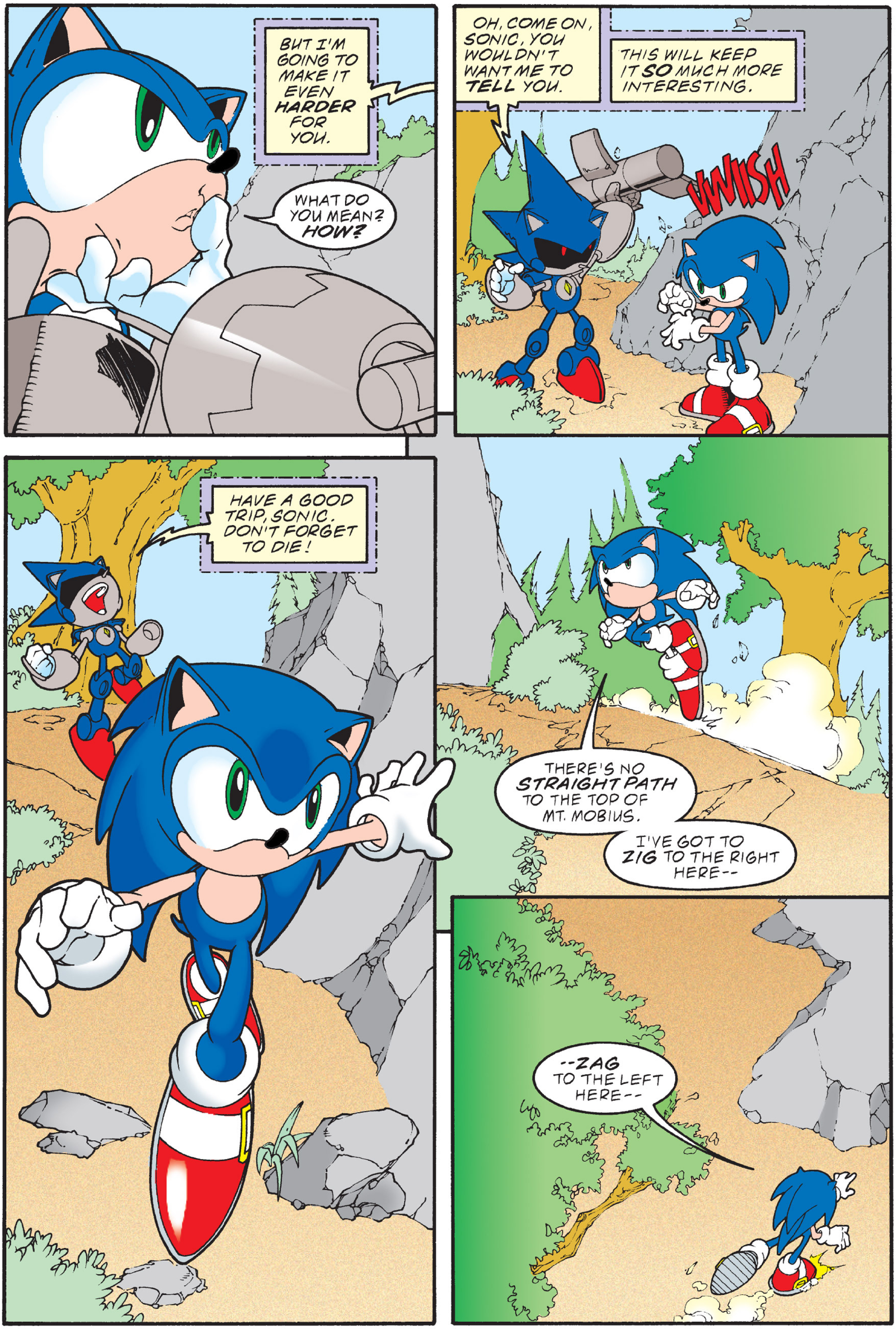
SHUMP
I'M OVER HERE.
HOW'D HE MOVE SO FAST...?
HERE I AM. TAKE ANOTHER SHOT.
MISTER, WHEN YOU WAKE UP YOU'RE GONNA BE PART OF SOMEBODY'S VACUUM CLEANER!
YOU WERE SAYING...?
NO! NO ONE CAN DO THAT!
NO
ONE
EXCEPT
METALSONIC!
STAY STILL, BLAST YOU!

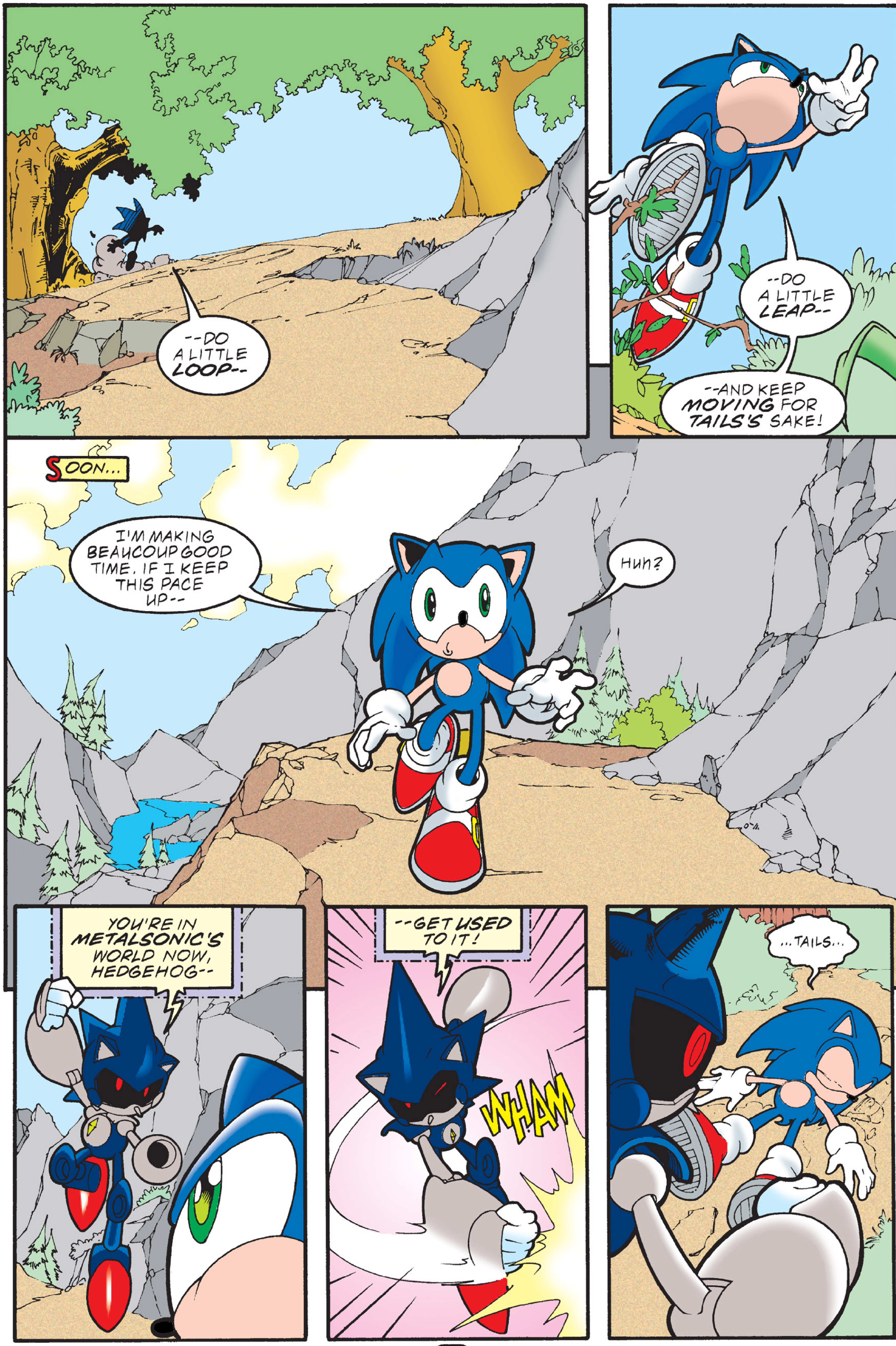

BY THE WAY--
MOVING EXTRA-
FAST ISN'T ALL--
SPOING
--I CAN DO
THAT YOU CAN'T!
NO!
FWIP
FWIP
FWIP
BOING
LOOK OUT!
HEDGEHOG ON
THE LOOSE!
KABWONG
BRAKAAM
OWWW!
UP YOU
GO LIKE
A BIRD--

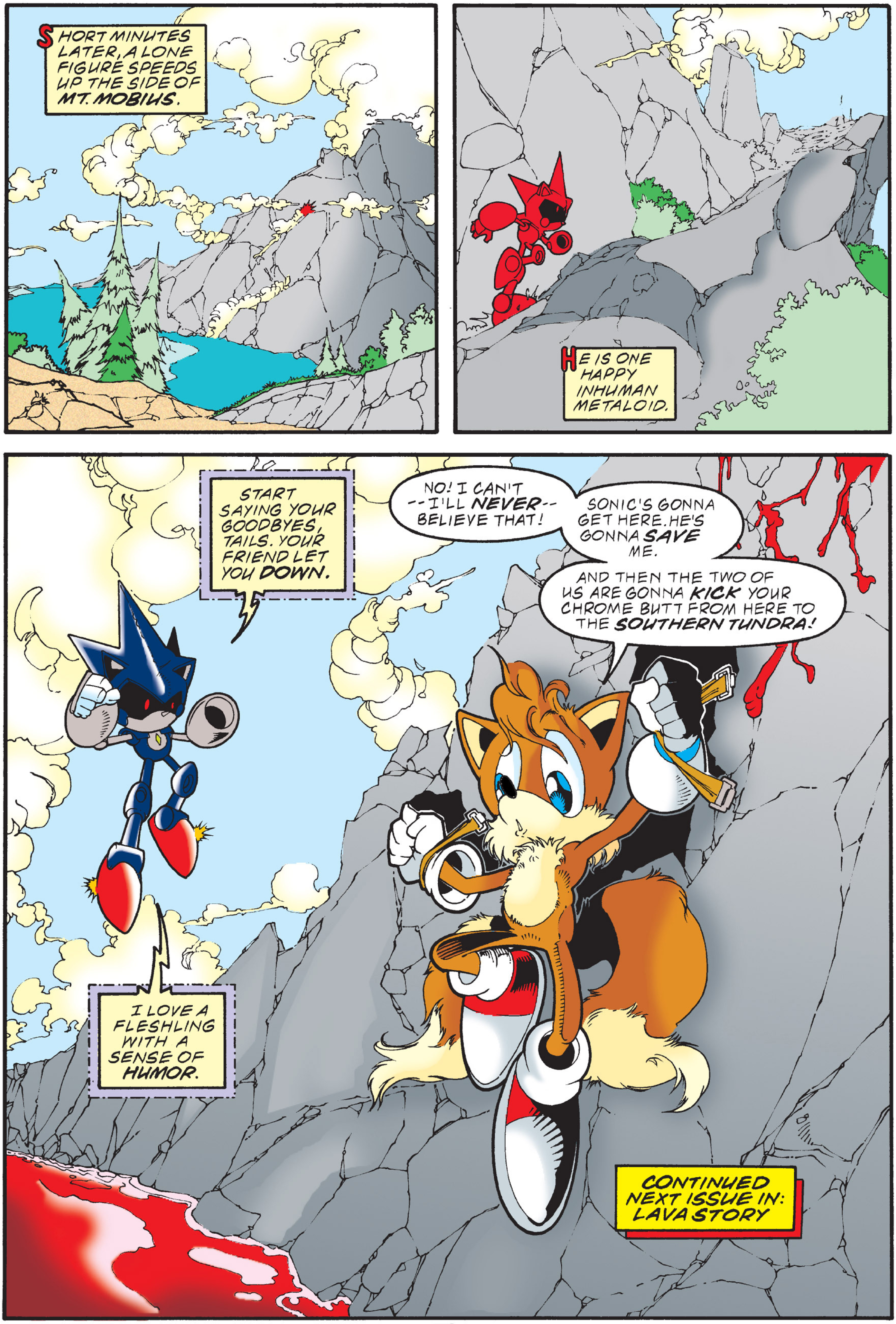


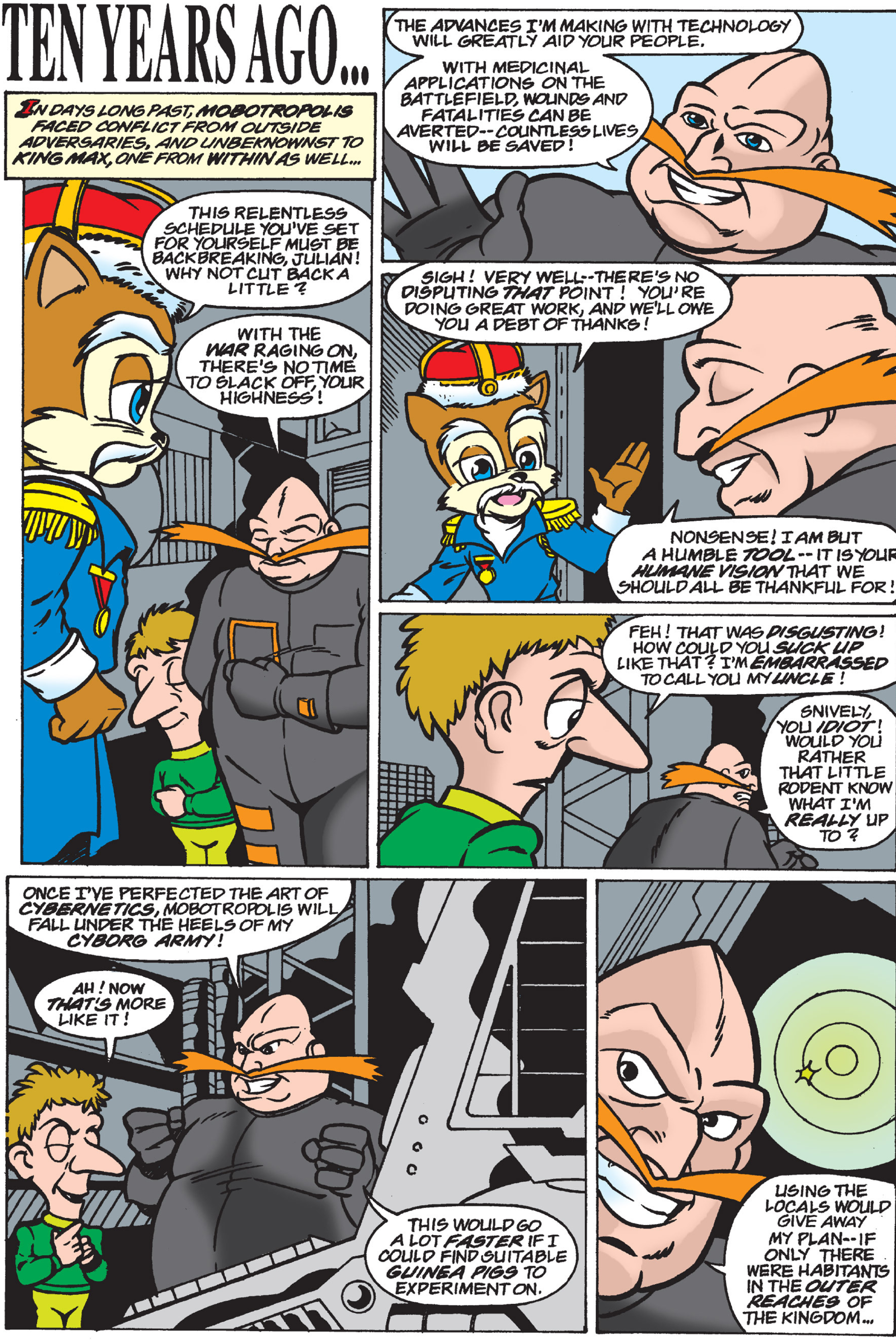
--OR A SKEET!
WHAMMM
-UNGH-
FWISH
BWOMP
NOW, I KNOW HOW YOU FIDGET--
SHOOMK
BWAMP
BWAMP
--SO I'LL MAKE SURE YOU STAY STILL FOR THE REST OF OUR LITTLE CHAT.
HE'S MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER... AND NOW I SEE WHY!
THAT GLOW COMING FROM HIS CHEST. IT CAN ONLY BE FROM THE SAME POWER GEM THAT MADE HIM A GIANT![4]
IF HE'S GOT ONE...
YOU ARE NOTHING COMPARED TO ME, SONIC--
...WHAT CHANCE DO I HAVE?

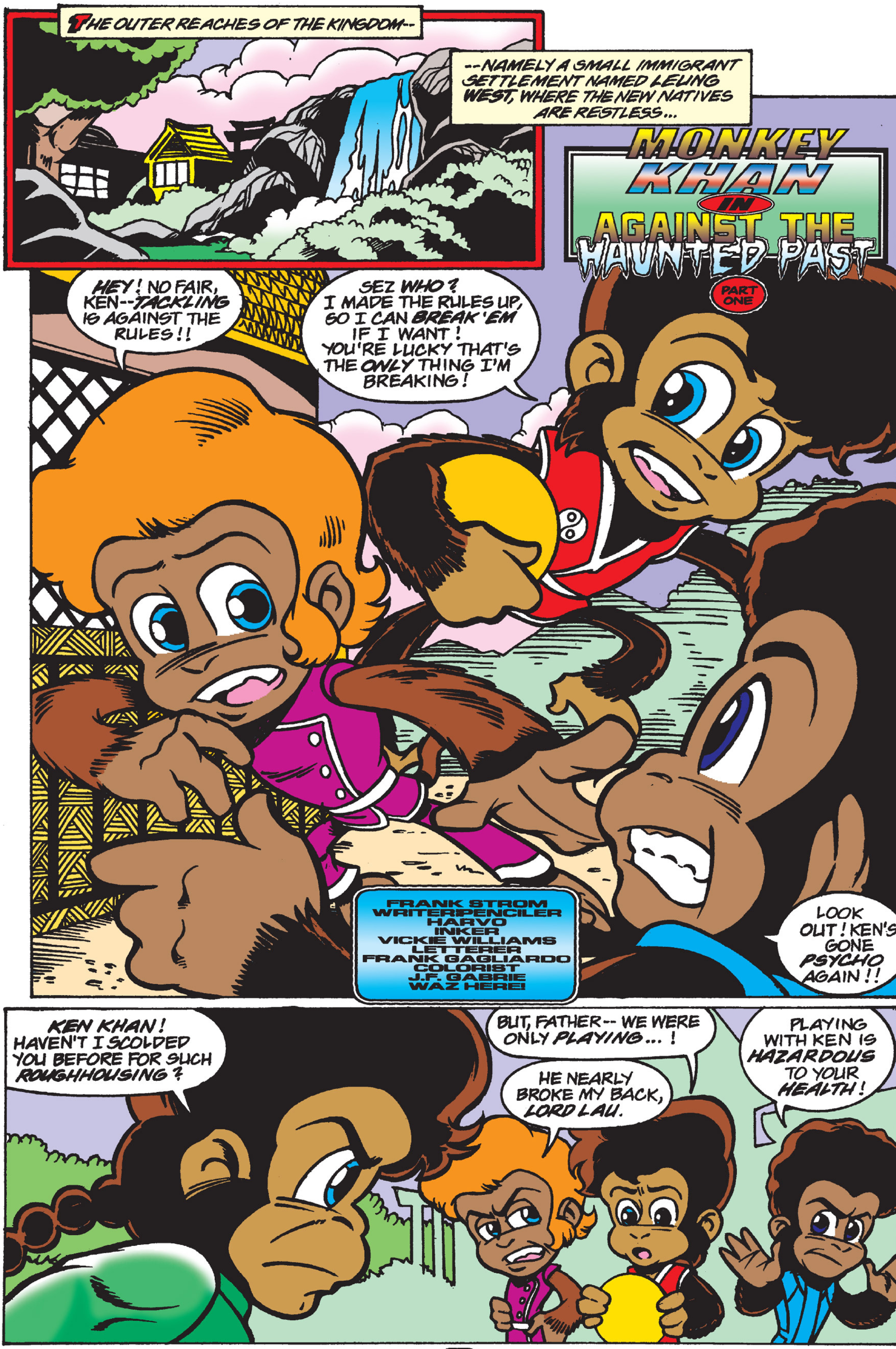

NOTHING!
BUT I AM A FAIR ROBOT. I WILL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO SAVE YOUR FRIEND.
YOU WILL NEVER DEFEAT ME, BUT AT LEAST YOU WILL BOTH DIE KNOWING YOU TRIED-- AND WERE DEFEATED BY-- YOUR BETTER.
I'M SURE THIS'LL BE A FAIR--
--CONTEST--?
WHERE'D YA GO, METALHEAD? REMEMBER A LUBE JOB APPOINTMENT?
FIVE MINUTES LATER...
THE FLOWERS ARE BEAUTIFUL ATOP MT. MOBIUS THIS TIME OF YEAR.
BUT IT'D TAKE ME A HALF HOUR TO GET THERE AND BACK! YOU MADE IT--
--IN FIVE MINUTES. EXACTLY. THAT IS WHERE YOUR FRIEND IS. ATOP A VOLCANO THAT WILL BLOW VERY SOON.
I MAY HAVE RIGGED IT, BUT EVEN I CAN'T TIME SUCH THINGS EXACTLY.
SO, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GET THERE AND SAVE YOUR FRIEND.
FOR TAILS, I'LL BREAK THE LAND SPEED RECORD!
ADMIRABLE SENTIMENTS--

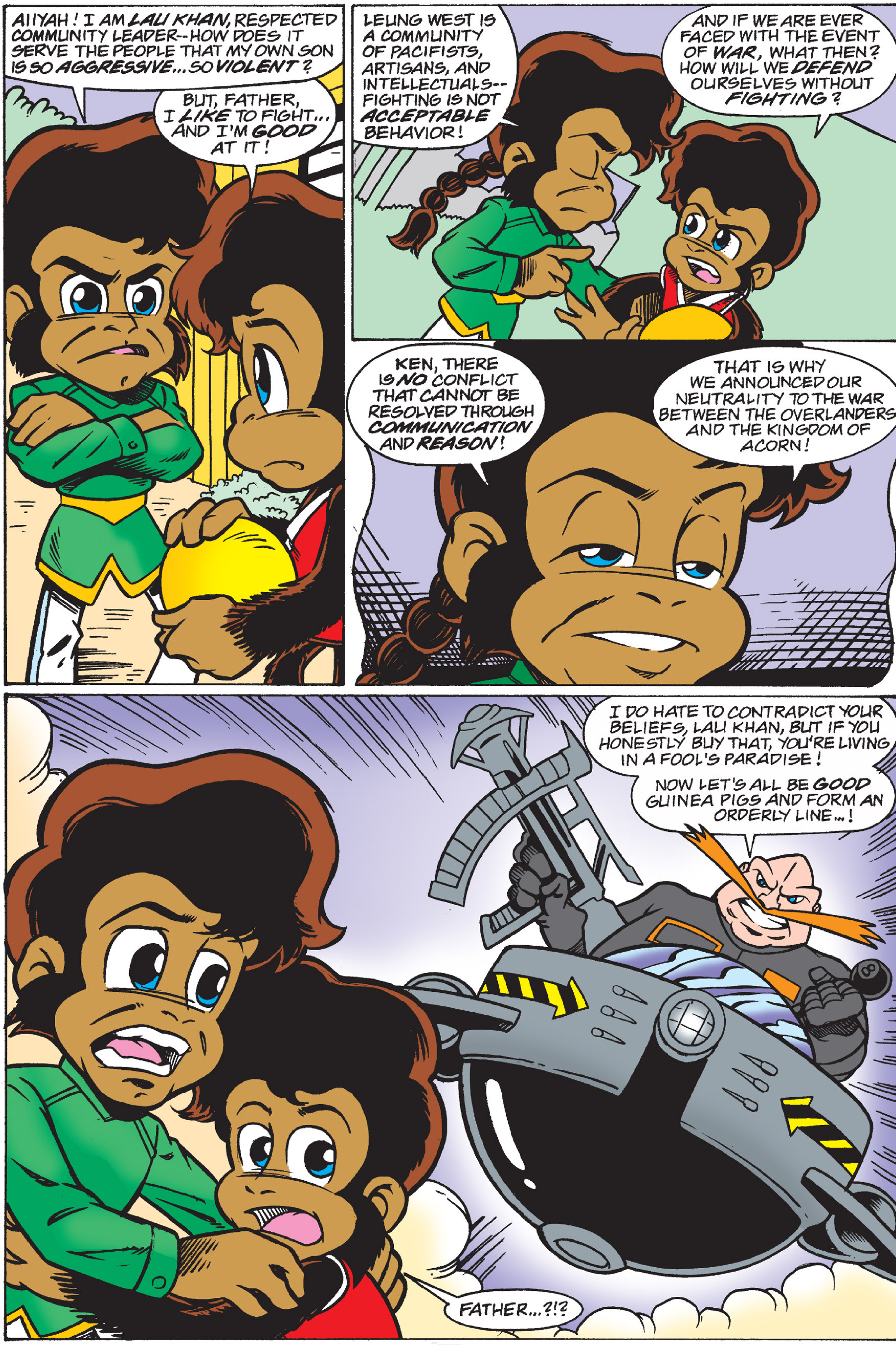

BUT I'M GOING TO MAKE IT EVEN **HARDER** FOR YOU.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? **HOW?**
OH, COME ON, SONIC, YOU WOULDN'T WANT ME TO **TELL** YOU.
THIS WILL KEEP IT **SO** MUCH MORE INTERESTING.
VWIISH
HAVE A GOOD TRIP, SONIC. DON'T FORGET TO DIE!
THERE'S NO **STRAIGHT PATH** TO THE TOP OF MT. MOBIUS.
I'VE GOT TO **ZIG** TO THE RIGHT HERE--
--**ZAG** TO THE LEFT HERE--

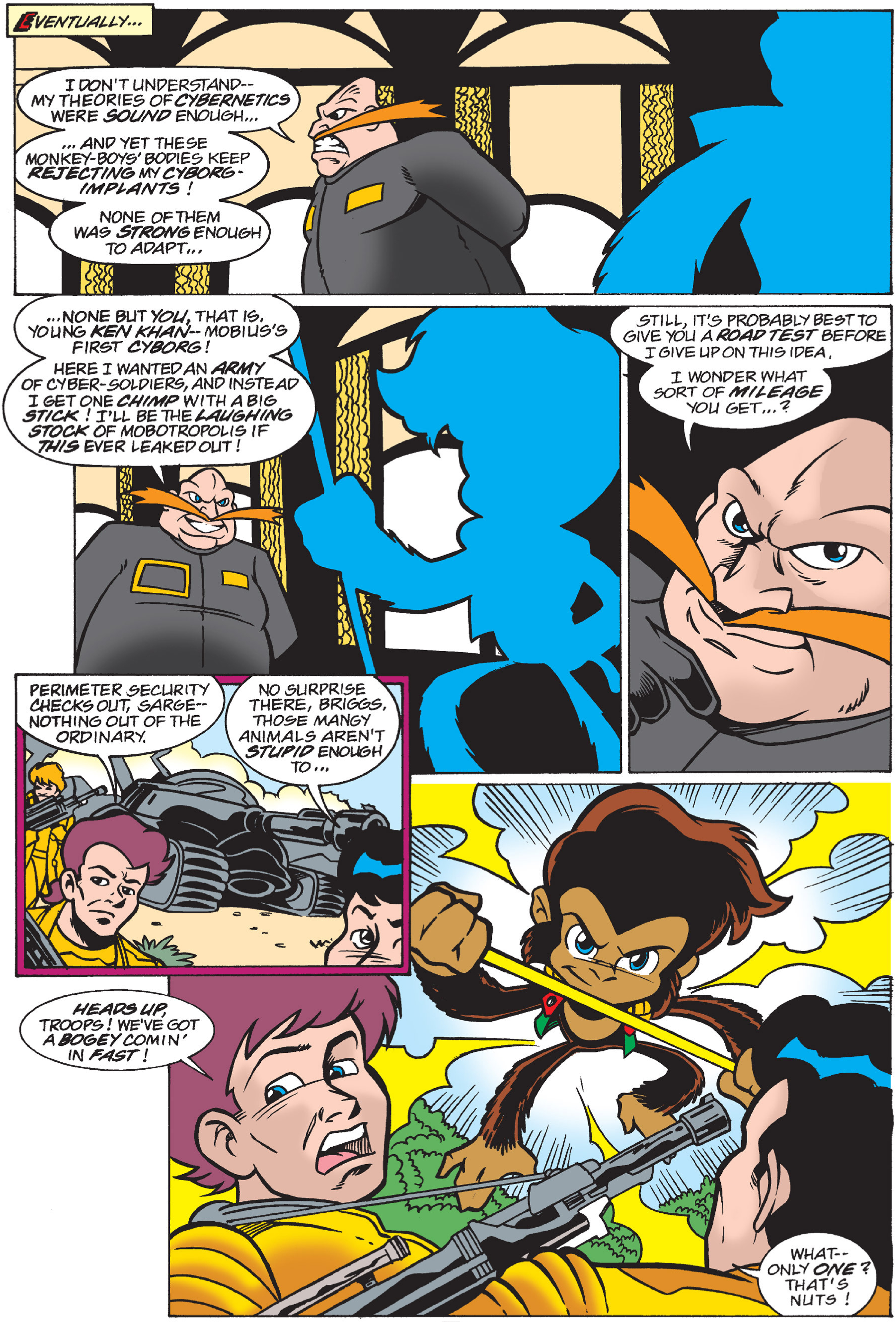

--DO A LITTLE LOOP--
--DO A LITTLE LEAP--
--AND KEEP MOVING FOR TAILS'S SAKE!
SOON...
I'M MAKING BEAUCOUP GOOD TIME. IF I KEEP THIS PACE UP--
Huh?
YOU'RE IN METALSONIC'S WORLD NOW, HEDGEHOG--
--GET USED TO IT!
WHAM
...TAILS...


SHORT MINUTES LATER, A LONE FIGURE SPEEDS UP THE SIDE OF MT. MOBIUS.
HE IS ONE HAPPY INHUMAN METALOID.
START SAYING YOUR GOODBYES, TAILS. YOUR FRIEND LET YOU DOWN.
NO! I CAN'T --I'LL NEVER-- BELIEVE THAT!
SONIC'S GONNA GET HERE. HE'S GONNA SAVE ME.
AND THEN THE TWO OF US ARE GONNA KICK YOUR CHROME BUTT FROM HERE TO THE SOUTHERN TUNDRA!
I LOVE A FLESHLING WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR.
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE IN: LAVA STORY

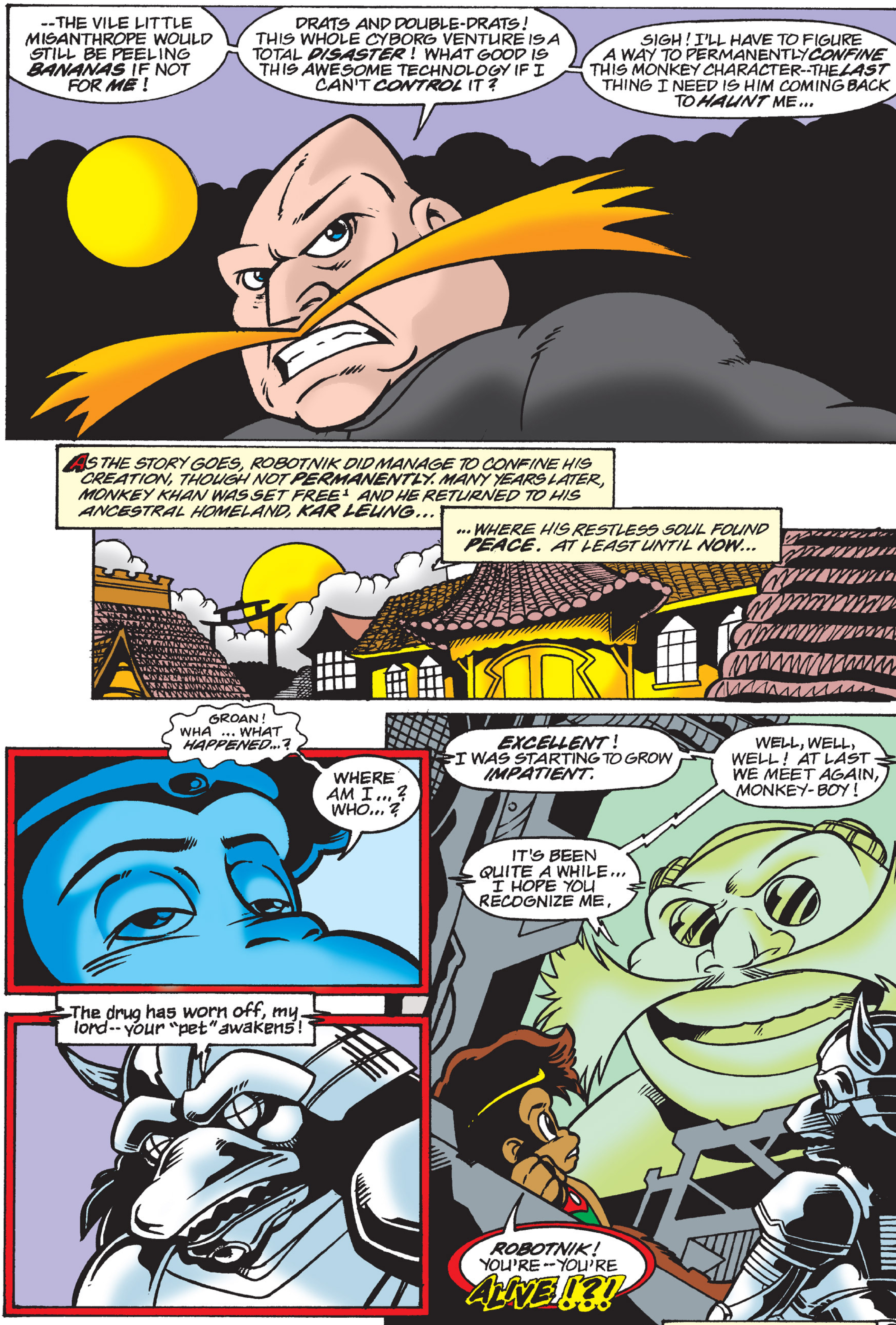

TEN YEARS AGO...
IN DAYS LONG PAST, MOBOTROPOLIS FACED CONFLICT FROM OUTSIDE ADVERSARIES, AND UNBEKNOWNST TO KING MAX, ONE FROM WITHIN AS WELL...
THIS RELENTLESS SCHEDULE YOU'VE SET FOR YOURSELF MUST BE BACKBREAKING, JULIAN! WHY NOT CUT BACK A LITTLE?
WITH THE WAR RAGING ON, THERE'S NO TIME TO SLACK OFF, YOUR HIGHNESS!
THE ADVANCES I'M MAKING WITH TECHNOLOGY WILL GREATLY AID YOUR PEOPLE.
WITH MEDICINAL APPLICATIONS ON THE BATTLEFIELD, WOUNDS AND FATALITIES CAN BE AVERTED-- COUNTLESS LIVES WILL BE SAVED!
SIGH! VERY WELL--THERE'S NO DISPUTING THAT POINT! YOU'RE DOING GREAT WORK, AND WE'LL OWE YOU A DEBT OF THANKS!
NONSENSE! I AM BUT A HUMBLE TOOL -- IT IS YOUR HUMANE VISION THAT WE SHOULD ALL BE THANKFUL FOR!
FEH! THAT WAS DISGUSTING! HOW COULD YOU SUCK UP LIKE THAT? I'M EMBARRASSED TO CALL YOU MY UNCLE!
SNIVELY, YOU IDIOT! WOULD YOU RATHER THAT LITTLE RODENT KNOW WHAT I'M REALLY UP TO?
ONCE I'VE PERFECTED THE ART OF CYBERNETICS, MOBOTROPOLIS WILL FALL UNDER THE HEELS OF MY CYBORG ARMY!
AH! NOW THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!
THIS WOULD GO A LOT FASTER IF I COULD FIND SUITABLE GUINEA PIGS TO EXPERIMENT ON.
USING THE LOCALS WOULD GIVE AWAY MY PLAN--IF ONLY THERE WERE HABITANTS IN THE OUTER REACHES OF THE KINGDOM...


THE OUTER REACHES OF THE KINGDOM--
--NAMELY A SMALL IMMIGRANT SETTLEMENT NAMED LEUNG WEST, WHERE THE NEW NATIVES ARE RESTLESS...
MONKEY KHAN IN AGAINST THE HAUNTED PAST
PART ONE
HEY! NO FAIR, KEN--TACKLING IS AGAINST THE RULES!!
SEZ WHO? I MADE THE RULES UP, SO I CAN BREAK 'EM IF I WANT! YOU'RE LUCKY THAT'S THE ONLY THING I'M BREAKING!
LOOK OUT! KEN'S GONE PSYCHO AGAIN!!
FRANK STROM WRITER/PENCILER HARVO INKER VICKIE WILLIAMS LETTERER FRANK GAGLIARDO COLORIST J.F. GABRIE WAZ HERE!
KEN KHAN! HAVEN'T I SCOLDED YOU BEFORE FOR SUCH ROUGHHOUSING?
BUT, FATHER-- WE WERE ONLY PLAYING...!
HE NEARLY BROKE MY BACK, LORD LAU.
PLAYING WITH KEN IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH!


AIIYAH! I AM LAU KHAN, RESPECTED COMMUNITY LEADER--HOW DOES IT SERVE THE PEOPLE THAT MY OWN SON IS SO AGGRESSIVE... SO VIOLENT?
BUT, FATHER, I LIKE TO FIGHT... AND I'M GOOD AT IT!
LEUNG WEST IS A COMMUNITY OF PACIFISTS, ARTISANS, AND INTELLECTUALS-- FIGHTING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR!
AND IF WE ARE EVER FACED WITH THE EVENT OF WAR, WHAT THEN? HOW WILL WE DEFEND OURSELVES WITHOUT FIGHTING?
KEN, THERE IS NO CONFLICT THAT CANNOT BE RESOLVED THROUGH COMMUNICATION AND REASON!
THAT IS WHY WE ANNOUNCED OUR NEUTRALITY TO THE WAR BETWEEN THE OVERLANDERS AND THE KINGDOM OF ACORN!
I DO HATE TO CONTRADICT YOUR BELIEFS, LAU KHAN, BUT IF YOU HONESTLY BUY THAT, YOU'RE LIVING IN A FOOL'S PARADISE!
NOW LET'S ALL BE GOOD GUINEA PIGS AND FORM AN ORDERLY LINE...!
FATHER...?!?


EVENTUALLY...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND-- MY THEORIES OF CYBERNETICS WERE SOUND ENOUGH...
...AND YET THESE MONKEY-BOYS' BODIES KEEP REJECTING MY CYBORG-IMPLANTS!
NONE OF THEM WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO ADAPT...
...NONE BUT YOU, THAT IS, YOUNG KEN KHAN-- MOBIUS'S FIRST CYBORG!
HERE I WANTED AN ARMY OF CYBER-SOLDIERS, AND INSTEAD I GET ONE CHIMP WITH A BIG STICK! I'LL BE THE LAUGHING STOCK OF MOBOTROPOLIS IF THIS EVER LEAKED OUT!
STILL, IT'S PROBABLY BEST TO GIVE YOU A ROAD TEST BEFORE I GIVE UP ON THIS IDEA.
I WONDER WHAT SORT OF MILEAGE YOU GET...?
PERIMETER SECURITY CHECKS OUT, SARGE-- NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.
NO SURPRISE THERE, BRIGGS. THOSE MANGY ANIMALS AREN'T STUPID ENOUGH TO...
HEADS UP, TROOPS! WE'VE GOT A BOGEY COMIN' IN FAST!
WHAT-- ONLY ONE? THAT'S NUTS!


FOR A TRUE WARRIOR, ONE IS MORE THAN ENOUGH!
DON'T PANIC, MEN-- WE'VE GOT THE LITTLE BUGGER OUT-GUNNED!
NOT FOR LONG!
KER-THOOOOM!
GOOD LORD--THE TANK! PULL BACK! PULL BACK!
Hee-hee! LOOK AT THOSE OVERLANDERS SCATTER! BRAVO! BRAVO!
WITH A POWERHOUSE LIKE YOU, MY LITTLE MONKEY KHAN, I WON'T NEED AN ARMY!
KING MAX'S MEN WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT THEM WHEN I SET YOU LOOSE ON...
NO! YOU COST ME MY FAMILY... MY FRIENDS...!
I'LL NEVER WORK FOR A SOULLESS FIEND LIKE YOU!!
WHA-A-AT? THIS IS MUTINY! KEEP BACK OR...!
ARRGH!!
TALK ABOUT INGRATITUDE--


--THE VILE LITTLE MISANTHROPE WOULD STILL BE PEELING BANANAS IF NOT FOR ME!
DRATS AND DOUBLE-DRATS! THIS WHOLE CYBORG VENTURE IS A TOTAL DISASTER! WHAT GOOD IS THIS AWESOME TECHNOLOGY IF I CAN'T CONTROL IT?
SIGH! I'LL HAVE TO FIGURE A WAY TO PERMANENTLY CONFINE THIS MONKEY CHARACTER--THE LAST THING I NEED IS HIM COMING BACK TO HAUNT ME...
AS THE STORY GOES, ROBOTNIK DID MANAGE TO CONFINE HIS CREATION, THOUGH NOT PERMANENTLY. MANY YEARS LATER, MONKEY KHAN WAS SET FREE[1] AND HE RETURNED TO HIS ANCESTRAL HOMELAND, KAR LEUNG...
...WHERE HIS RESTLESS SOUL FOUND PEACE. AT LEAST UNTIL NOW...
GROAN! WHA ... WHAT HAPPENED...?
WHERE AM I...? WHO...?
The drug has worn off, my lord--your "pet" awakens!
EXCELLENT! I WAS STARTING TO GROW IMPATIENT.
WELL, WELL, WELL! AT LAST WE MEET AGAIN, MONKEY-BOY!
IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE... I HOPE YOU RECOGNIZE ME.
ROBOTNIK! YOU'RE--YOU'RE ALIVE!?!
TO BE CONTINUED